

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MBFR V 00460 291455Z

51

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDE-00 AECE-00 AEC-05 CIAE-00

H-01 INR-05 IO-10 L-02 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01

PM-03 PRS-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

TRSE-00 RSC-01 NSC-05 /085 W
----- 028444

P R 291415Z NOV 74

FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0701

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0460

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: BILATERALS WITH EASTERN REPS ON EASTERN
MANPOWER FREEZE PROPOSAL

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. AT ITS NOV 28 MEETING, THE AD HOC
GROUP (AHG) HEARD REPORTS ON NOV 27 BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS
WITH EASTERN REPS CONCERNING EASTERN PROPOSAL FOR MILITARY
MANPOWER FREEZE. EASTERN REPS SOUGHT TO DRAW
ALLIED REPS INTO ACCEPTANCE OF THE PRINCIPLE BEHIND THE
MILITARY MANPOWER FREEZE PROPOSAL AND INTO A DISCUSSION
OF DETAILS OF THAT PROPOSAL. THE SOVIET REP (KHLESTOV)
INDICATED FLEXIBILITY ON THE DURATION OF THE FREEZE,
STATING THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO DIFFICULTY IN

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MBFR V 00460 291455Z

REACHING AGREEMENT ON A FREEZE "FOR ONE, TWO OR

THREE YEARS, IF THAT WOULD SUIT YOU BETTER." THE GROUP ALSO DISCUSSED AND APPROVED THE AHG REPORT TO NAC ON THE CURRENT STATUS OF MBFR NEGOTIATIONS; TEXT OF THAT REPORT IS IN MBFR VIENNA 0454; AHG DISCUSSION OF NAC REPORT IS BEING COVERED BY SEPTTEL AND SUMMARY. END SUMMARY.

2. SOVIET/UK BILATERAL. UK REP (ROSE) SAID HE HAD DISCUSSED THE EASTERN MILITARY MANPOWER FREEZE PROPOSAL DURING NOV 27 MORAVIA VISIT WITH SOVIET REPS (KHLESTOV AND SMIRNOVSKY), DRAWING ON AHG INTERIM TALKING POINTS, AND STRESSING THE UNACCEPTABILITY OF AN OPEN-ENDED FREEZE OF THE CURRENT RELATIONSHIP OF FORCES, WHICH THE WEST WISHED TO ALTER. ROSE SAID HE TOLD SOVIET REPS THAT THE NEW EASTERN PROPOSAL WAS NOT SERIOUS AND WAS ADVANCED ONLY FOR PROPAGANDA PURPOSES. KHLESTOV ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE PUBLIC WOULD WELCOME SUCH A PROPOSAL. KHLESTOV ALSO INDICATED FLEXIBILITY ON DURATION OF FREEZE, STATING THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO DIFFICULTY REACHING AGREEMENT ON A FREEZE " FOR ONE, TWO OR THREE YEARS, IF THAT WOULD SUIT YOU BETTER" THAN A FREEZE FOR THE DURATION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. ROSE NOTED WITH INTEREST KHLESTOV'S EXPRESSION OF FLEXIBILITY REGARDING DURATION, BUT SAID ALLIES ALSO HAD MANY OTHER OBJECTIONS. WHEN SMIRNOVSKY INVITED THE UK REP TO STATE HOW HE WOULD WISH TO CHANGE THE PROPOSAL, ROSE SAID: "IF I TOLD YOU ALL THE CHANGES, YOU WOULD ACCUSE US AGAIN OF INSISTING ON OUR FIRST PHASE PROPOSAL." SMIRNOVSKY SAID THAT WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTABLE AND DID NOT ENCOURAGE ROSE TO SUGGEST FURTHER CHANGES.

3. IN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM ITALIAN ACTING REP (TALIANI), ROSE SAID HE ALSO HAD CRITICIZED THE EASTERN MANPOWER FREEZE PROPOSAL ON THE GROUNDS THAT IT WOULD RESULT IN NATIONAL SUB-CEILINGS. SMIRNOVSKY HAD REPLIED "YOU KNOW OUR POSITION ON THAT." IN SUM, SAID ROSE, THE SOVIET REPS DID NOT DENY THE PUBLIC RELATIONS PURPOSES OF THEIR NEW PROPOSAL, BUT SEEMED MAINLY INTENT UPON DRAWING HIM INTO ACCEPTANCE FIRST OF THE PRINCIPLE OF THEIR FREEZE PROPOSAL, AND THEN

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 MBFR V 00460 291455Z

INTO DISCUSSION OF ITS DETAILS.

4. SOVIET/BELGIAN BILATERAL. BELGIAN REP (ADRIAENSSEN) ALSO HAD A TALK WITH KHLESTOV AND SMIRNOVSKY, WHICH HE SAID HAD FOLLOWED THE SAME LINES AS THAT WITH ROSE. ADRIAENSSEN NOTED THAT THE SOVIET REPS WERE EAGER TO HAVE THE WEST MAKE A COUNTER-PROPOSAL WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THEIR FREEZE CONCEPT, AND THEREBY TO LURE THE WEST ONTO

THE EAST'S GROUND. ADRIAENSSEN OBSERVED THAT THE FREEZE PROPOSAL AGAIN HIGHLIGHTS THE EAST'S "POLITICAL" APPROACH TO THE VIENNA TALKS, WITH ITS EMPHASIS ON PUBLIC OPINION AND COSMETIC CHANGES, AS OPPOSED TO THE WEST'S MORE "MILITARY-TECHNICAL" APPROACH, WHICH IS AIMED AT ACHIEVING REAL CHANGES IN THE MILITARY SITUATION IN THE NGA.

5. HUNGARIAN/LUXEMBOURG BILATERAL. LUXEMBOURG REP (WINTER) REPORTED THAT HUNGARIAN REP (PETRAN) HAD TRIED VERY HARD TO FIND OUT IF THE WEST HAD SOME ADVANCE KNOWLEDGE OF THE NOV 26 EASTERN MANPOWER FREEZE PROPOSAL. WHEN ASKED TO EXPLAIN THE REASON FOR THIS QUESTION, PETRAN ADMITTED THAT THE EAST HAD BEEN SURPRISED BY THE PROMPT AND COGENT WESTERN CRITICAL RESPONSE TO THE FREEZE PROPOSAL WHEN IT WAS PUT FORWARD AT THE NOV 26 INFORMAL. WINTER DENIED THAT THE WEST HAD HAD ANY ADVANCE INFORMATION ON THE FREEZE PROPOSAL. HE SAID PETRAN SEEMED TO THINK SOMEONE ON THE EASTERN SIDE HAD DIVULGED THE PROPOSAL TO THE WEST PRIOR TO THE NOV 26 INFORMAL.

6. SOVIET/US BILATERAL. US DEP REP SAID HE HAD BEEN ASKED SIMILAR QUESTIONS AND HAD REPLIED THAT THE WEST WERE INDEED SURPRISED BY THE TIMING AND FORM OF THE PROPOSAL BUT ITS DEFECTS WERE SO OBVIOUS THAT WE WERE ABLE TO RESPOND QUICKLY IN A PRELIMINARY MANNER. MOREOVER, HAVING ANALYZED THE DRIFT OF THE CURRENT EASTERN APPROACH, WITH WHICH THE FREEZE PROPOSAL WAS CONSISTENT, WEST WAS PREPARED IN GENERAL FOR SOMETHING ALONG THOSE LINES.

7. CHRISTMAS RECESS. CANADIAN REP (GRANDE) SAID THAT HE HAD HEARD FROM BOTH POLISH REP (STRULAK) AND
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 MBFR V 00460 291455Z

BULGARIAN REP (DICHEV) THAT THE WESTERN PROPOSAL REGARDING THE CHRISTMAS RECESS HAD BEEN REFERRED TO EASTERN CAPITALS. BOTH STRULKA AND DICHEV SAID EASTERN DELEGATIONS WERE SYMPATHETIC WITH THE WESTERN PROPOSAL TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS, AFTER THE CHRISTMAS RECESS, IN THE WEEK STARTING JANUARY 27. IN THIS CONNECTION US DEP REP SAID HE HAD EXPLAINED TO KHLESTOV THAT, AS A PRACTICAL MATTER, US DEL WISHED TO HAVE A SOMEWHAT LONGER BREAK IN ORDER, INTER ALIA, TO TALK TO MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, WHO WOULD BE RETURNING TO WASHINGTON IN MID-JANUARY. KHLESTOV TOOK THIS IN AS A PERFECTLY REASONABLE IDEA.

8. THE SOVIET REP THEN ASKED HOW CONGRESS VIEWED THE EASTERN POSITION IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. US DEP REP SAID

THERE WAS A PARTICULAR LACK OF UNDERSTANDING AMONG
CONGRESSMEN FOR THE EASTERN POSITION ON DATA. HE SAID
CONGRESSIONAL VISITORS SIMPLY FAILED TO UNDERSTAND WHY THE
EAST REFUSED TO DISCUSS SERIOUSLY THESE BASIC FACTS OF THE
NEGOTIATIONS. KHLESTOV MADE NO REPLY TO THIS POINT. RESOR

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING REPORTS, MILITARY AGREEMENTS, MUTUAL FORCE REDUCTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MBFRV00460
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740346-0775
From: MBFR VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974113/aaaaachp.tel
Line Count: 174
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 MAR 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <28 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BILATERALS WITH EASTERN REPS ON EASTERN MANPOWER FREEZE PROPOSAL
TAGS: PARM, NATO, (KHLESTOV)
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005